

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above referenced subcommittee held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 5:45 p.m. in Conference Room #5, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

Committee members present were: Councilors Hypolite, DeLorenzo and Seldon

Also present were: Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager, William Hogan, Director of Finance and India Rodgers, Clerk of Council

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m.

Discussion of 2015 Grand List and Governor's Proposed 2016/2017 Budget

2015 Grand List

Mr. William Hogan, Director of Finance updated the committee on the status of the 2015 Grand List. The 2015 Grand List was a net total of \$2,038,195,880. This list increased by .21% post revaluation. (see spreadsheet and memo attached)

Real Estate increased by \$4,286,010 with the completion of Mallory Ridge Apartments, several new condominiums at Brighton Park, a new industrial building for Eastern Communications incorporated, several industrial additions and the expiration of Kaman Aerospace Tax Abatement at 60 Old Windsor Road.

Personal Property increased by \$617,149, which included upgrades to the Eversource Energy Distribution system and other business personal property made up of furniture, fixtures, computers and manufacturing equipment. The net Grand List amount reflects annual depreciation, additions and deletions of business assets.

Motor Vehicle decreased by \$526,811, representing additional commercial vehicles which are exempt from taxation and the ongoing difficulties by the Motor Vehicle Department in reporting vehicles to their correct town corrections, and additions should be reflected in the supplemental motor vehicle list.

Overall, over the past nine years only two decreases were noted in the taxable list.

Governors' Budget FY 2016/2017 Budget

Mr. Hogan also updated the committee on the proposed Governor's Budget FY 2016/2017. The proposed budget includes the Municipal Capital Grant of \$1,600,000 in both fiscal years FY15/16 and FY16/17. The Education Cost Sharing (ECS) grant for Bloomfield is \$5,400,000 and the Mashantucket Pequot grant for \$150,000.

It was noted that new grants in the budget include the Municipal Revenue Sharing Sales Tax grant, which is estimated at \$630,000. However, this grant is based on collection activities of all state retail sales tax.

In addition, the proposed Motor Vehicle Grant will be used to offset cities and towns. Residents will receive two tax bills with different rates for real estate, personal property and motor vehicles. The motor vehicle tax

will be capped at 32 mills. The town has a projected decrease of \$250,000, based on levies of tax collection on motor vehicles for the past two years.

The committee also had a brief discussion regarding the proposed capital improvements projects for the Prosser Library, 330 Park Avenue and the Public Works garage. A possible budget referendum for these projects is in a reasonable timeframe to clarify a decision by June 30, 2016. In order to meet the deadline for a budget referendum, language must be submitted to the Secretary of State by September 2016. There are several timeline of events and budget sessions that will begin in March 2016.

New Business

The Request for Proposal (RFP) for the internal audit was issued and is due on February 19, 2016.

Adjournment

It was moved by Councilor Hypolite, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting 6:20 p.m.